

Message Text

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70

ACTION AEC-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00

PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 SAJ-01 ACDA-19

IO-14 L-03 NSC-07 SCI-06 FEA-02 DRC-01 /125 W

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R 191725Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3938

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION BERLIN

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

UNCLAS BONN 11502

DEPT PASS USAEC

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: TECH, ENGR, GW

SUBJECT: NUCLEAR ENERGY: BIBLIS A 1,200 MWE POWER

STATE GOES CRITICAL.

1. THE BIBLIS A NUCLEAR REACTOR, WHICH IS OF THE PRESSURIZED-WATER TYPE WITH A 1,200 MWE (3540 MWTH) CAPACITY, REACHED CRITICALITY ON JULY 16. THIS FOLLOWED THE GRANTING OF A SEVENTH PARTIAL LICENSE BY THE HESSIAN MINISTRY FOR ECONOMICS AND TECHNOLOGY WHICH AUTHORIZED TRIAL OPERATION AT REDUCED CAPACITY. FULL CAPACITY SHOULD BE ATTAINED IN A FEW MONTHS. THE RESULTING ELECTRICAL OUTPUT OF THIS POWER STATION OPERATED BY RHEINISCH-WESTFAELISCHES ELEKTRIZITAETSWERK AG (RWE), WILL SERVE 2 MILLION PEOPLE.

2. CONSTRUCTION WAS BEGUN IN JANUARY 1970 BY KRAFTWERK

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UNION AG, MUELHEIM/RUHR (KWU) ON THE DM 500 MILLION

POWER STATION, WHICH IS LOCATED ON THE RHINE RIVER NEAR WORMS. INITIALLY, A LICENSE WAS ISSUED AUTHORIZING THE PUMPING OF WATER FROM THE RHINE FOR COOLING THE REACTOR AND THE RETURNING OF THE HEATED WATER BACK INTO THE RIVER. HOWEVER, THIS LICENSE WAS RESCINDED IN 1972 AND THE REACTOR IS NOW COOLED BY TWO 50 METER TOWERS, EACH EQUIPPED WITH 59 COOLING FANS.

3. BIBLIS A WILL BE FOLLOWED BY BIBLIS B IN 1976 WHICH IS EXPECTED TO COST DM 830 MILLION.

4. COMMENT: OFFICIALS AT KWU BELIEVE THAT THIS FIRST STEP TOWARD FULL CAPACITY OPERATION OF THIS TYPE OF REACTOR WILL HAVE A POSITIVE IMPACT ON CURRENT FRG/ USSR NEGOTIATIONS OVER CONSTRUCTION OF A KWU PRESSURIZED NUCLEAR REACTOR IN THE USSR.
CASH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NUCLEAR REACTORS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BONN11502
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740195-0824
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Review Markings:

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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TAGS: TECH, ENRG, GE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005